



Department of Justice

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FORMER INDIANAPOLIS CITY-COUNTY COUNCILMAN CHARGED WITH SOLICITING A BRIBE AND ATTEMPTED EXTORTION

WASHINGTON – Former Indianapolis and Marion County, Ind., City-County Councilman Lincoln Plowman has been charged with attempted extortion and soliciting a bribe, announced Assistant Attorney General Lanny A. Breuer for the Criminal Division and U.S. Attorney Timothy M. Morrison of the Southern District of Indiana.

The indictment, returned by a federal grand jury in the Southern District of Indiana, alleges that between Aug. 11, 2009, and Dec. 22, 2009, while a member of the City-County Council, Plowman solicited an undercover FBI agent to pay \$5,000 in cash and to make a \$1,000 campaign contribution for Plowman's benefit. In exchange for the payments, Plowman allegedly would use his official actions and influence to facilitate the opening of a strip club in Indianapolis. According to the indictment, Plowman was a member of the Metropolitan Development Committee of the City-County Council. He was also a major with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department.

Plowman faces a maximum penalty on the extortion charge of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. He faces a maximum penalty on the bribery charge of 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in the Southern District of Indiana.

An indictment is merely a charge and defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

The case is being prosecuted by Senior Trial Attorney Richard C. Pilger of the Criminal Division's Public Integrity Section and Assistant U.S. Attorney Joe H. Vaughn. The case is being investigated by the FBI.

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